[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

Non-caste Hindus.—1 on Rs. 15, 14 on Rs. 14 each, 2 on Rs. 9 each and 1 on Rs. 8.

Lands Registered to Members of Depressed Classes in Agastisvaram.

267. MR. PAUL V. DANIEL (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state the total area of lands registered in the names of members of the depressed classes in the Agastisvaram taluk during the first four months of 1099?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Ten cents.

MR. PAUL V. DANIEL (*Agastisvaram*): Was this due to want of lands available for registration or for want of applications?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Agastisvaram is a taluk where there are very few *puduval* lands available for registry. That must have been the reason.

Accommodation in the Kottar Departmental Vernacular School.

268. MR. PAUL V. DANIEL (*Agastisvaram*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of pupils now on the rolls in the Kottar Departmental Vernacular School?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the accommodation available in that school is, at present, insufficient?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The strength of the Kottar Departmental Vernacular School on the 1st Chingam, 1099, was 898.

(*b*) Yes.

English High School Buildings at Nagercoil.

269. MR. PAUL V. DANIEL (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to issue instructions to the Public Works Department to expedite the construction of the new English High School buildings at Nagercoil?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The work is making steady progress.

Transfer of Officers from the Huzur Office to the Excise Department and vice versa.

270. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): (*a*) With reference to the reply given by the Chief Secretary to Government to the motions brought forward by Messrs. T. Kumara Pillai and K. P. Raman Pillai in the Karkatakam session of the Legislative Council in 1098 that it would be the policy of the Government to maintain a free flow of hands from the General and Revenue Secretariat to the executive and from the executive to the Secretariat, and with reference again to the representations made in the same Council

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by Messrs. T. K. Velu Pillai, A. Hoogewerf and other members, that there is absolute necessity for infusing fresh blood into the executive branch of the Excise Department, will the Government be pleased to state the number of hands sent out from the Secretariat to the Excise and other departments and the number of hands taken to the Secretariat from the Excise and other departments from the 1st Chingam, 1099, to the 1st Dhanu, 1099?

(*b*) Are the Government aware that the late Excise Commissioner, Mr. Raman Pillai, repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government the necessity for appointing fresh men from the Secretariat to the Excise Department, that, with this object, he recommended the appointment of many graduate clerks of the Huzur Secretariat as Circle Officers and Excise Inspectors, and that the Government sanctioned such recommendations?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government find that a free exchange of officers between the Secretariat and the non-technical executive departments is not possible unless the officers are grouped and brought under the same or similar *cadre*. The matter is being considered by the Government.

(*b*) The late Excise Commissioner, Mr. N. Raman Pillai, appears to have made such proposals on two occasions and they were sanctioned by the Government.

Trivandrum P. W. Sub-Division Charge.

271. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam cum Ettumanur*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Assistant Engineers alone are generally put in charge of the Trivandrum Sub-division?

(*b*) If so, why is a Supervisor put in charge of that Sub-division?

(*c*) Are there competent Assistant Engineers in the department who may be put in charge of Sub-divisions?

(*d*) Is it a fact that two Chief Engineers, Messrs. Bastow and Jacob, had recommended to the Government that Mr. G. V. Subrahmanya Aiya, the acting Sub-divisional Officer, Trivandrum, should not be put in charge of any Sub-division and that in pursuance of those recommendations the Government had removed him from Sub-division charge?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) this question does not arise.

(*c*) Yes; and they are in charge of Sub-divisions now.

(*d*) The answer is in the negative.

Kattippanam Case.

272. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): What action did the Government take in regard to the open allegations of corruption,

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